

Message Text

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ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SSO-00

SCA-01 VO-01 IO-03 INR-05 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 SAJ-01

SAM-01 /046 W

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R 191138Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8681

CONFIDENTIAL PARIS 10010

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, VS, US

SUBJECT: CONTACTS WITH THE PRG

REF: (A) PARIS 09898; (B) PARIS 09723

1. AS REPORTED REF A, PRG IS ASKING FOR OFFICIAL VISAS FOR TWO VIETNAMESE WOMEN TO ATTEND A CONFERENCE UNDER UN AUSPICES. PRG NO DOUBT REMEMBERED THE EXPERIENCE OF APRIL 1973 (STATE 071364 AND PARIS 11145 OF 1973) WHEN EMBASSY REFUSED TO ACCEPT A NOTE FROM PRG INFORMATION OFFICE, THEN THE CLOSEST THING TO A DIPLOMATIC MISSION THE PRG MAINTAINED. TODAY, THE PRG USED ITS DELEGATION FOR THE SVN BILATERALS RATHER THAN THE PRG PERMANENT MISSION WHICH IS NOW THE PRINCIPAL CLAIMANT TO BEING THE PRG DIPLOMATIC ESTABLISHMENT IN FRANCE. NOTE WAS ADDRESSED TO THE CONSULAR SERVICES OF THE EMBASSY. WE THEREFORE ACCEPTED THE NOTE AS NOT HAVING ANY REAL DIPLOMATIC STANDING.

2. COMMENT: PRG APPARENTLY CAREFULLY WORKED OUT TACTICS IN APPROACHING THE U.S. IN ORDER TO REDUCE THE CHANCES OF OUR REFUSING TO CONSIDER THE VISA APPLICATIONS. COMING SO CLOSELY UPON THE HANOI DECISION TO CONFIDENTIAL

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RESPOND TO A U.S. NOTE (REF B), IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THIS

PRG ATTEMPT AT CONTACTS INDICATES HANOI'S DESIRE FOR RESUMING A DIALOGUE WITH THE US, PART OF WHICH WOULD BE THROUGH THE PRG. WITH THE CURRENT SITUATION IN VIETNAM, IT IS LESS LIKELY THAT THE DRV'S PRINCIPAL PURPOSE IS TO HAVE PRG ATTENDANCE AT SUCH A CONFERENCE.

3. WHETHER OR NOT WE EVENTUALLY ISSUE THE VISAS, THE RECENT PRG ACTION RAISES THE QUESTION OF EMBASSY CONTACTS HERE AND ELSEWHERE WITH THE PRG NOW AND IN THE FUTURE WHEN THE SITUATION IN SOUTH VIETNAM MAY HAVE CHANGED. PARIS MAY BE ONE OF THE PLACES WHERE THE PRG MAY AGAIN MAKE AN EFFORT TO DEAL WITH THE U.S. BECAUSE OF THE HISTORY OF THE NEGOTIATIONS IN WHICH WE ACCEPTED THEM AS A PARTNER, EVEN TO THE POINT OF INVITING THE PRG FOREIGN MINISTER TO THE USG'S POST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE RECEPTION.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: WE WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING ANY CHANGES IN EXISTING INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING CONTACTS WITH DRV AND PRG. IT WOULD ALSO BE HELPFUL TO HAVE NEW INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING CONTACTS WITH GRUNK PERSONNEL WHO WILL SOON HAVE DIPLOMATIC RANKS.

STONE

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